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PLANT BUILDS ANODE-MECHANICAL CUTTING UNIT; OTHERS SAVE METAL, MAKE NEW MACHINE TOOLS

ELECTRIC-SPARK UNIT REMOVES BROKEN TOOLS -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 88, 13 Apr 50

An electric-spark unit for removing broken tools from parts being machined has recently been built at the Leningrad Kirov Plant. Formerly, the parts had to be thrown away if a drill or tap broke off in them during machining. This machine tool saved the plant 30,000 rubles during 70 hours of operation.

An anode-mechanical cutting unit was constructed in the machine molding shop No 1. The machine's cutting disks, made of ordinary roofing tin, easily cut through ingots up to 150 millimeters in diameter.

NEW METHOD SAVES METAL IN BEARING PLANT -- Moskovskaya Pravda, No 48, 15 Apr 50

At the First Bearing Plant imeni Kaganovich, rollers are being formed in bottomless dies (bezdonnykh matritsakh). This has raised labor productivity 15 percent and is saving 10 tons of metal per month.

The machining cycle for rollers has been cut. The waste from metal bar ends was reduced from 15-20 to 3-5 centimeters, which effected a saving of 3 tons of alloy steel during the first 10 days of April.

Formerly, dozens of tons of rejected rollers were taken to the Serp i Molot Plant for resmelting. Now these rollers are restamped into balls.

Reduction of tolerances in the forming of raceways has greatly reduced the amount of subsequent machining and raised labor productivity in these operations.

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PRODUCES NEW TYPES OF MACHINE TOOLS -- Pravda, No 64, 5 Mar 50

The Gor'kiy Milling Machine Plant is converting to the production of new, improved types of machine tools. The first groups of horizontal, vertical, and universal milling machines have already been produced. They bear the lable "N," which means "new." They can be used for all types of work, whether in the MTS or in the largest automobile plants. The inventors of these new types, Designer B. I. Petyashin, Chief Engineer B. N. Muravin, and Chief Technologist N. M. Khitrun, have based their designs exclusively on the requirements of Soviet industry. They did not use a single foreign-made machine tool as a model, because the foreign types do not satisfy Soviet needs.

High-speed metalworking is widespread in Soviet plants and, therefore, the designers made high-speed cutting their special consideration. High speeds are the basic working speeds of the new machine tools; operators can raise their speed up to 550 meters per minute. The number of spindle revolutions is more than twice the number on the machines currently produced in series. The machine tools can withstand rocking and vibrations and consequently work with high precision and productivity.

Although the "N" series machines are 1½ times as productive as the usual type of machine tools, they actually require a smaller expenditure of labor from the operators. They are more convenient to operate than foreign models because they are equipped with a special system of push buttons and control cranks and can be operated from two sides, the front and left. Unlike US models, they can be put immediately into top speed.

The new milling machines can be used as semiautomatics, and several can be operated by one worker.

The first models are already in operation in various plants.

The designers mentioned above have all been awarded the Stalin Prize. This prize has also been awarded to the plant's designers of heavy machine tools, M. M. Ivanov and V. A. Anufriyev.

CONFUSION REIGNS AT TOOL PLANT -- Zarya Vostoka, No 73, 8 Apr 50

The words "customer" and "order" are usually uttered in tones of alarm and foreboding at the Tbilisi Tool Plant. This enterprise, which has a fairly good staff of workers, engineers, and technicians, has shown outstanding performance on a number of occasions, but in its 8 years of existence it has not formed a clear idea of the exact nature of its functions.

S. Khitarishvili, the plant's director, sallies forth from time to time in quest of clients and his excursions sometimes last 2 months. The orders which he brings back are apt to be fortuitous and may call for products which the plant is not equipped to make. As a result, production in this plant has been very erratic.

Last year, the plan was not fulfilled in February, April, and May; in the other months, it was met only in respect to gross production. This year, the January plan was not carried out and the quarter plan left uncompleted in regard to a number of products. At the moment, the plant is having serious financial difficulties.

An examination of production in this plant during the last 2 years shows the haphazard nature of the items put out, as a result of which the plant has been operating under considerable financial loss. In 1949, the plant got an order from the Soyuzprommekhanizatsiya (Union Industrial Mechanization) Trust in Moscow for overhead conveyer chains. It managed to fill this order although supply difficulties interrupted production on many occasions. This year, Soyuzprommekhanizatsiya ordered, instead of separate parts, complete assemblies of the conveyer. The plant was totally unequipped to handle this order and was therefore compelled to distribute the whole range of parts among the various plants in Tbilisi under the Ministry of Local Industry Geogrian SSR. More than half of the parts are to be produced by the Agricultural Machine-Building, Metal Design, imeni 26 Kommiscarov, and imeni Kalinin plants. A similar situation has arisen in regard to an order for casting conveyers. The plant was unable to cope with the order and had to turn over the production of more than half the parts to other plants.

The plant has turned out table lamps, lanterns, aluminum pots, conveyers -- everything but tools. Yet, there is an urgent need for tools in many Georgian metalworking plants. High-speed cutting tools with negative angles are usually made by individual plants on their own premises, although the time has long been ripe for their mass production. Things have now come to such a pass that the Tbilisi Tool Plant itself needs tools. While it makes its own forms, attachments, and measuring instruments, it does this in a primitive fashion. It very rarely makes cutting tools; yet, the need for these at the plant is so great that very frequently production stops for the want of a tool.

In view of the above, the position taken by the Ministry of Local Industry in regard to the plant, is very strange. Does Minister G. Gordeziani acquiesce to this situation? N. Abramov, chief of the ministry's Technical Production Department, shows no concern for the plant's future.

It is time to settle the basic type of production in this plant. It must be transformed into a genuine tool plant. To this effect, it must be staffed with competent personnel, equipped with the proper means of production, and given a well-defined program of output. -- A. Dzhanashvili

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